

Iron County Register

BY E. D. AKE.

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A Appeal for Are to the Sextant of the Old Brick Meetinghouse.

BY A GASP.

The following piece, which originally appeared in the *Detroit Tribune*, was published over thirty years ago, but the philosophy therein is as just as any principle applicable to the present. While the writer was seemingly rather a poor sufferer, he was evidently in earnest and possessed a keen wit.

O sextant of the meetinghouse, which sweeps And darts its eye in supple tool and makes faces.

And the gas and sunbeams leave a screw loose In which case it smells awful—worse than lamp!

And wrings the Bel and toles it when men die To the grief of survivors, partners, and sweeps paths.

And for the services give \$100 per annum. Which then that thinks dear, let me try it.

Gettin up before starting in all weathers and Or waiting when the weather is as cold.

As zero, and like as not green wood for kindling.

I wouldn't be hired to do it for no sum— But I'd be hired to do it for a kermidoddy.

Which is more than gold, which counts cost nothing. Worth more than anything except the Sole of a shoe.

I mean power Are, sextant, I mean power Are. It is plenty out o' doors, so plenty it doant no harm to dote with itself, but dya about.

Scatter leaves and bloom men's hats; In short, jest "Are are" out doors.

But o' sextant, in our church its scarce as a peck.

Scarce as bank bills when agents beg for mischuns.

Which some say purty often (aint nothin to Wat I give aint nothin to nobody) but o' sextant.

U shet 30 mens' women and children. Specially the latter, up in a title place.

Some has had breaths, none aint 2 sweet. Some is fevry, some is acretus, some has had teeth.

And some haint none, and some aint over clean.

But every 1 on em breaths in out and out and out.

Say 50 times a minutes, or 1 million and a half breaths an hour.

Now how long will a church full of are last at that rate?

I ask you, say 5 minutes, and then wats to be did?

Why then they must breathe it all over again. And then again, and so on, till each has took it down.

At least 10 times, and let it up again, and wats more.

The same individdle don't have the privilege of breathin his own are, and no one's else; Each one must take whatever comes to him.

O' sextant, dont you know our lungs are bellows.

To blow the fire of life, and keep it from going out; and how can bellows blow without wind.

And aint wind are? I put it to your consens. Are is the same to us as milk to babes.

Or water is to fish, and air is to birds. Or roots and air to an infant Doctor.

Or little pils into an one-pail. Or boys and girls, and aint nothin to breathe.

Wats signifies who preaches if I aint breathe? Wats Pol? Wats Pol? to sinners who are dead?

Des for want of breath? why sextant, when we die Its only o' we cant breathe no more—that's all.

And now, O' sextant, let me beg of you 2 little are into our church.

(Power are is a great privilege, and the power) At last, "A REAL QUEEN," "BALL'S DIVE," ETC., ETC.

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somehow; and if it don't fit Patience it can be made to; though I think it will. It strikes me if I don't save the price of that last journey I shall be a fool. And save both power, too, and time. I want rubbing up a bit that's all; and that's easy done. Lucky nobody came this way before me—it might have got stolen.

It is hardly too much to say that the winking of Patience Blackthorn's eyes given him no greater happiness than the finding of a ring to marry her with for nothing. It appealed to his very inmost soul, to which little else could extend; and it was the best of omens besides. Only to Fortune's choicest favorites do such chances as this occur. He looked at the ring all over once more, then put it into his waistcoat pocket, and went back whistling, in the lightness of his heart, something meant to be a tune.

It is all very well to plan a quiet wedding; but though it is quite as possible to do as stingy in country as in town, it is not so easy to insure quietness there by. Everybody knew Enoch Marriah; everybody knew Patience Blackthorn; and, above all, everybody knew old Tom. It was not a romantic match, but it was a match of the highest class; and against its reasonableness nobody could say a word. "Old Enoch's money-bags is just the manure for Lays Croft," was the universal comment; and they thought that Patience Blackthorn had done a decidedly clever thing.

And so, if marrying for money is as clever as the world pretends not to think it, she had done a clever thing. It is true she would have starved and starved her children, and considered her husband for the rest of her days. As things were, she would not make any pretenses to herself or dignity what she was doing with the name of duty.

However, it was hard to go through the ideal of the happy marriage. When dressed as plainly as she dared, and taking her father's arm (he had taken hers along the meadow-path) she reached the corpse-gate of the churchyard, she found quite a crowd to scrape and court in the front of her. It was quite as if none of them had ever refused to do a day's work for them at a pinch—not that she remembered anything of that kind, unless it were as another thought. When she could not forget was that this was the very church where she was to have become the wife of Stephen Harlow, who had fled from his wedding like a coward, to die in Spain like a decent brave man. However, she had no time to think of this, as memory ever since she had risen that morning. There was nothing but the village stores for which she was unprepared; and they were not the hardest things she had to bear.

Never did bride come to the altar with a fuller resolve to keep all the vows she was about to make, save only the chief of them. She did honor Enoch Marriah, with all his faults. The very fact that he, being what he was, had inspired this particular ring to plague and battle his owner the time being. The person, not being used to such interruptions, stopped short at:

"Patience, wilt thou have this man?" And the clerk made a dash with his foot at the dancing imp, which, however, eluded him, and went rolling on. "Let's go," said the blacksmith's wife. "I've seed that trick afore. Here, Master Marriah, take this ring. It's a bit biggish; but, Lord, I've known 'em properly married with a brass curtain-ring before now."

It seemed the best thing to be done. Had not Enoch himself waded for brass instead of gold? He was indeed, as the bride's favorite, his slightest wish seemed to fulfill itself now. And, of course, the gold thing would be found hereafter, with searching. Not even a church-mouse can eat gold, for all its piousness. And forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him—

"By jingo," cried out a voice from a dark pew, with too much impulse in it to respect of times and places, "that poor devil of a ring could have kicked the bucket after all! Why—it's his ring!"

The nervous curate dropped his book with a bang. The clerk was petrified where he stood. Enoch boiled with rage at this scandalous insult. The bride, Patience started, though she had schooled herself against any surprise, and, in spite of herself, turned round. And the voice she would have known, if it had not been for her eyes. For what was that voice? It was the voice of the voice from the dark pew. It was in another shadow that she saw a form dressed in ragged regimentals; and before their wearer could avoid her glance, and shrink farther back into the aisle.

Patience the bride, and Stephen the curate, were face to face once more. He had not been able to return to Spain without seeing her once more, though it was only to watch her becoming the wife of a villain and a traitor. So for a whole moment they stood, none heeding them in the greater scandal. He read in her face such sudden despair, she in his such a heartbreak, that they could hardly bear to see. The church was full of their sight; they were face to face, alone.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

INTEREST RULES.

Short and Correct Methods of Computing Interest.

The answer in each case being in cents, separate the two right-hand figures of answer to express in dollars and cents.

Four per cent.—Multiply the principal by the number of days to run. Separate right-hand figure from the product and divide by nine.

Five per cent.—Multiply by number of days and divide by seventy-two.

Six per cent.—Multiply by number of days, separate right-hand figure, and divide by six.

Eight per cent.—Multiply by number of days, and divide by forty-five.

Nine per cent.—Multiply by number of days, separate right-hand figure and divide by four.

Ten per cent.—Multiply by number of days and divide by thirty-six.

Twelve per cent.—Multiply by number of days, separate right-hand figure, and divide by three.

To find the time in which a sum of money will double itself at a certain rate of interest, and the result will be the number of years. For example, at four per cent. money will double in eighteen years; at eight per cent. it will double in nine years. The rule is correct to within a fraction of a year for all rates from three per cent. upward. We are indebted for this to Mr. Fackler, the well-known actuary.—*Montreal Herald.*

—Boston has a drunkard who has been sentenced to the House of Industry one hundred times for drunkenness.—*Boston Journal.*

thanks to his money, there was scarce a man there who would not have stood in his boots, or woman who would not gladly have stood in those of his wife to be.

Then came the parson—not the rector, who lived at Oxford, and edited Greek plays, and held six other livings, of which he had once or twice visited one or two—but a very young and very nervous lad from Hunchester, whom nobody knew, and who knew nobody at Merham. It was a sort of relief to Patience to see a stranger behind the altar-rails. She walked up the aisle, pale, indeed, but more composed than it is the present, but no doubt, as soon as Patience became Mrs. Marriah, they would come.

As for old Tom Blackthorn, he looked round him proudly, as if he were master of all, and was already feeling in his pockets, for half-crowns to give to the parish at large. They were not there, however, but no doubt, as soon as Patience became Mrs. Marriah, they would come.

"Dear loved, we are gathered together here—"

Patience Blackthorn would soon be Patience Marriah, now for better, for worse, for richer for poorer—for richer for worse, for choice out of the two pair of chances. Nobody answered to the charge that any impediment should be confessed at that eventful, or rather, twelfth hour. Enoch Marriah, however, everything should go smoothly, and that the clerk should have no claim to an extra shilling on the score of looking after him without occasion, got ready the mangle ring from his waistcoat.

He had no time to think of this, as memory ever since she had risen that morning. There was nothing but the village stores for which she was unprepared; and they were not the hardest things she had to bear. Never did bride come to the altar with a fuller resolve to keep all the vows she was about to make, save only the chief of them. She did honor Enoch Marriah, with all his faults. The very fact that he, being what he was, had inspired this particular ring to plague and battle his owner the time being. The person, not being used to such interruptions, stopped short at:

"Patience, wilt thou have this man?" And the clerk made a dash with his foot at the dancing imp, which, however, eluded him, and went rolling on. "Let's go," said the blacksmith's wife. "I've seed that trick afore. Here, Master Marriah, take this ring. It's a bit biggish; but, Lord, I've known 'em properly married with a brass curtain-ring before now."

It seemed the best thing to be done. Had not Enoch himself waded for brass instead of gold? He was indeed, as the bride's favorite, his slightest wish seemed to fulfill itself now. And, of course, the gold thing would be found hereafter, with searching. Not even a church-mouse can eat gold, for all its piousness. And forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him—

"By jingo," cried out a voice from a dark pew, with too much impulse in it to respect of times and places, "that poor devil of a ring could have kicked the bucket after all! Why—it's his ring!"

The nervous curate dropped his book with a bang. The clerk was petrified where he stood. Enoch boiled with rage at this scandalous insult. The bride, Patience started, though she had schooled herself against any surprise, and, in spite of herself, turned round. And the voice she would have known, if it had not been for her eyes. For what was that voice? It was the voice of the voice from the dark pew. It was in another shadow that she saw a form dressed in ragged regimentals; and before their wearer could avoid her glance, and shrink farther back into the aisle.

Patience the bride, and Stephen the curate, were face to face once more. He had not been able to return to Spain without seeing her once more, though it was only to watch her becoming the wife of a villain and a traitor. So for a whole moment they stood, none heeding them in the greater scandal. He read in her face such sudden despair, she in his such a heartbreak, that they could hardly bear to see. The church was full of their sight; they were face to face, alone.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]